

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (original): A system for treating a dilated heart valve comprising:
a delivery device including an outer catheter and inner catheter;
a valve closure device coupled to the inner catheter and received in the outer catheter, the valve closure device including an annulus reduction device disposed adjacent a distal end of the inner catheter, and a compression device disposed proximal the annulus reduction device, the annulus reduction device including a plurality of leg portions, the leg portions including force redirecting tips, wherein when the system is delivered proximate the dilated heart valve the outer catheter is retracted to release the annulus reduction device and the tips of the legs redirect a force exerted by the compression device to reduce a diameter of an annulus of the dilated heart valve.

2 (original): The system of claim 1 further comprising a locating device disclosed on a distal end of the inner catheter.

3 (original): The system of claim 2 wherein the locating device comprises a balloon.

4 (original): The system of claim 2 wherein the locating device comprises a gripping device.

5 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the legs are bent at a knee portion responsive to the force exerted.

6 (original): The system of claim 5 wherein the legs include a plurality of perforations at the knee portion.

7 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the legs are notched at the knee portion.

8 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the legs are corrugated at the knee portion.

9 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the tips include at least one barb.

10 (original): The system of claim 1 further comprising a retaining device coupled to the inner catheter and releasably attached to the annulus reduction device.

11 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the annular shaped device is composed of a material having shape memory material.

12 (original): The system of claim 11 wherein the shape memory material is a material chosen from a group consisting of nitinol, MP35N, stainless steel, algalloy, super alloy or combinations thereof.

13 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the legs are radioopaque.

14 (original): The system of claim 2 wherein the legs are magnetic.

15 (original): The system of claim 2 wherein the locating device comprises a magnetic guide wire located within a coronary sinus.

16 (original): A method for treating a dilated heart valve, the method comprising:
delivering an annulus reduction device in a lumen of a catheter proximate the dilated heart valve;

releasing the annulus reduction device from the catheter;

positioning leg portions of the annulus reduction device on an annulus of the dilated heart valve;

exerting a force on the annulus reduction device;

redirecting the force; and

reducing a diameter of the annulus in response to the redirection of the force.

17 (original): The method of claim 16 further comprising bending the leg portions in response to the redirected force.

18 (original): The method of claim 16 further comprising locating the annulus with a location device.

19 (original): The method of claim 16 wherein exerting a force comprises inflating a compression balloon.

20 (original): The method of claim 16 wherein exerting the force comprises pushing a piston member against the annulus reduction device.

21 (original): An annular reduction device for treatment of a dilated heart valve, comprising::

a body portion,

a plurality of self-expanding leg portions extending from the body portion, each leg portion including force redirecting tip, wherein force exerted on the body portion and through the leg portions and to the tips contacting the annulus device and the tips of the legs redirect a force exerted by the compression device against the body is transferred through the leg portions and redirected by the tips to reduce a diameter of an annulus of the dilated heart valve.

22 (withdrawn): The annular reduction device of claim 21 wherein self-expanding leg portions include a plurality of perforations.

23 (withdrawn): The annular reduction device of claim 21 wherein the annular reduction device is composed of a memory shape material.

24 (withdrawn): The annular reduction device of claim 21 wherein the redirecting tips of the self-expanding leg portions includes at least one barb.